

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-45 (cancelled).

46 (currently amended): A method comprising:

providing a telephone apparatus having a handset, a handset-receiving portion and a hands-free audio interface;

while the handset is received by the handset-receiving portion, communicating audio input and audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface; and

in response to the handset being removed from the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call, muting the audio input and maintaining to communicate the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicating a second audio input via the handset.

47 (previously presented): The method of claim 46 further comprising:

in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call, unmuting the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface.

48 (currently amended): A telephone apparatus comprising:

a handset;

a handset-receiving portion;

a sensor to sense if the handset is removed from the handset-receiving portion;

a hands-free audio interface; and

a telephone circuit responsive to the sensor to communicate audio input and audio output to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface while the handset is received by the handset-receiving portion, and to mute the audio input and maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset in response to the handset being removed from the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call.

49 (previously presented): The telephone apparatus of claim 48 wherein the telephone circuit is to unmute the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call.

50 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium; and

computer-readable data stored by the computer-readable storage medium, the computer-readable data to direct a telephone apparatus having a handset, a handset-receiving portion and a hands-free audio interface to communicate audio input and audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface while the handset is received by the handset-receiving portion, and in response to the handset being removed from the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call, to mute the audio input and to maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and to communicate a second audio input via the handset.

51 (previously presented): The article of manufacture of claim 50 wherein the computer-readable data is further to direct the telephone apparatus to unmute the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call.

52 (currently amended): a method comprising:

providing a telephone apparatus having a handset, a handset-receiving portion and a hands-free audio interface;

while the handset is removed from the handset-receiving portion, muting audio input and communicating audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicating a second audio input via the handset; and

in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call, unmuting the audio input and maintaining to communicate the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface.

53 (currently amended): A telephone apparatus comprising:

a handset;

a handset-receiving portion;

a sensor to sense if the handset is received by the handset-receiving portion;

a hands-free audio interface; and

a telephone circuit responsive to the sensor to mute audio input and communicate audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset while the handset is removed from the handset-receiving portion, and to unmute the audio input and maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call.

54 (currently amended): An article of manufacturing comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium; and

computer-readable data stored by the computer-readable storage medium, the computer-readable data to direct a telephone apparatus having a

handset, a handset-receiving portion and a hands-free audio interface to mute audio input and communicate audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset while the handset is removed from the handset-receiving portion, and to unmute the audio input and to maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the handset being replaced to the handset-receiving portion during the telephone call.

55 (currently amended): A method comprising:

providing a telephone apparatus having a hook switch and a hands-free audio interface;

while the hook-switch is depressed, communicating audio input and audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface; and

in response to the hook switch being released, muting the audio input and maintaining to communicate the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicating a second audio input via the handset.

56 (previously presented): The method of claims 55 further comprising:

subsequent to the hook switch being released, unmuting the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the hook switch being depressed.

57 (currently amended): a telephone apparatus comprising;

a hook switch;

a hands-free audio interface; and

a telephone circuit responsive to the hook switch to communicate audio input and audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface while the hook switch is depressed, and to mute the audio input and maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free

audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset in response to the hook switch being released.

58 (previously presented): The telephone apparatus of claim 57 wherein, subsequent to the hook switch being released, the telephone circuit is to unmute the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the hook switch being depressed.

59 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium; and

computer-readable data stored by the computer-readable storage medium, the computer-readable data to direct a telephone apparatus having a hook switch and a hands-free audio interface to communicate audio input and audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface while the hook switch is depressed, and in response to the hook switch being released, to mute the audio input and to maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and to communicate a second audio input via the handset.

60 (previously presented): The article of manufacture of claim 59 wherein the computer-readable data is further to direct the telephone apparatus to unmute the audio input to the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the hook switch being depressed subsequent to the hook switch being released.

61 (currently amended): A method comprising:

providing a telephone apparatus having a hook switch and a hands-free audio interface;

while the hook switch is released; muting audio input and communicating audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicating a second audio input via the handset; and

in response to the hook switch being depressed during the telephone call, unmuting the audio input and maintaining to communicate the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface.

62 (currently amended): A telephone apparatus comprising:

a hook switch;

a hands-free audio interface; and

a telephone circuit responsive to the hook switch to mute audio input and communicate audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset while the hook switch is released, and to unmute the audio input and maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the hook switch being depressed.

63 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium; and

computer-readable data stored by the computer-readable storage medium, the computer-readable data to direct a telephone apparatus having a hook switch and a hands-free audio interface to mute audio input and communicate audio output of a telephone call via the hands-free audio interface and communicate a second audio input via the handset while the hook switch is released, and to unmute the audio input and to maintain communicating the audio output of the telephone call via the hands-free audio interface in response to the hook switch being depressed.

64 (cancelled).

65 (currently amended): The method of claim 46 64, further comprising the step of communicating a second audio output via the handset.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes the approved drawing correction to Fig. 3. This sheet replaces the original sheet and is attached in an Appendix at the end of this paper.